

NEBRASKA STATE GRANGE NEWS

VOL. 60 NO. 54

April, May, June, 2010



**President's Report
Joe Fryman**

To quote from Charles Dickens A Tale of Two Cities, "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times". We live in a country that provides more freedom than any country in the world. Overall, our standard of living is as high as it has ever been. Technology enables us to communicate and access information with the ease and speed only read about in science fiction a few years ago. We have more and more entertainment opportunities while many folks say they are so busy with activities that they have no more free time left.

On the other hand, many of the news reports are about violence, recession, and discontent. There are feelings of frustration, loneliness,

helplessness, and the feeling that some issues are so overwhelming and complex there are no solutions. The phrase "enough is enough" can be heard around the nation and the world.

From what I understand, this was the mood of many folks when the Grange was organized in 1867. Farmers were frustrated because of being taken advantage of by big business and the railroads. There was loneliness and a helpless feeling. I suspect many Granges were formed by those who felt "enough is enough".

Today I believe there is an opportunity for Granges to be vehicles to cope with some of the problems of today's world. With the family as the core of the organization, the structure is already in place to come together and unite. On a personal level, it can offer comfort to the lonely. It can be a method of dealing with some frustrations through resolution work and legislative input. The Grange can foster a sense of community and address a number of local issues.

Our government continues to grow and cost more, yet recent world events confirm that governments cannot solve all our problems nor provide for every need. It seems easier to let someone else, such as our schools, government, etc. deal with our problems and issues, but fundamentally, we need to come

together as communities. The Grange is just a gang with a couple more letters who has their energy focused on a more positive purpose. We need more Grange Gangs!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

June 9 National Grange President Ed Luttrell in Lincoln, NE
***See page 2 for details

June 26 Rededication of National Grange Building

July 8-11 Nebraska Grange Bus Trip to southeast Minnesota

July 16 State Grange Convention Planning Session and rehearsal of 5th and 6th Degree at Riverside Inn in Grand Island

August 7 5th and 6th degree presentation in Waverly

August 15 News sheet deadline
Community Service Reports,
Secretary reports, resolutions due

August 27-September 6
Grange booth at the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island

September 10-12 Nebraska State Grange Convention
Riverside Inn Grand Island

November 9-13 National Grange Convention in Charlotte, NC

**National President to visit
Nebraska**

On June 9, 2010, National Grange President Ed Luttrell will be visiting Nebraska for a media event and to update Nebraska Grangers on National Grange events and issues. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. It will be held at the Golden Corral Restaurant meeting room, 3940 North 27th Street, Lincoln, NE. The meeting will should last 2 to 3 hours. We will eat supper at the Restaurant.



**GRANGE FAMILY ACTIVITIES
Phyllis Tooker, Director**

I heard a weatherman suggest that maybe April and May switched places this year. Whether they did or not I've had enough of the wind. Windy or not it is time to plan for some items to make for the contests at State Grange Convention.

Maybe I can give you some helps on what some of the classes require. For example the decadent brownies stumped some people a few years ago. Decadent can mean very, very rich or sinfully rich or it can mean just very good. Pick the meaning you wish but make some brownies for the State Contest.

Thought we'd try something a little different for the cookies. If the dough is refrigerated for awhile, the cookies usually are rolled into balls etc. before baking. I was hoping to be a little different than just drop cookies.

The coffee cake/breakfast bread means this class is open to just about any type of bread. I envisioned some of these recipes baked in bundt or angel food cake pans. Many of these have dough

rolled into balls before dipping or rolling them into something before dropping them into your pan. I've seen Monkey Bread, Orange Rolls, and Butterscotch Rolls etc. made this way but there are also many coffee cakes made in 9 by 13 inch pans. Let your imagination go but come up with something tasty.

The Fall Pumpkin Recipe can be anything except pie. Pumpkin pie would need to be refrigerated and we just don't have any way to do this. We've been trying to feature an ingredient that could have been raised in Nebraska and this year it is pumpkin.

Since we are an equal opportunity group, the Men's Choice is the class where you men can shine. This needs to be a baked bread or dessert and baked beans just won't do it.

The five food classes are to be made by Grange members only. All other classes are open for nonmembers. Professionals are not eligible to enter any of these classes.

The new class this year is Class 21 - China Painting. Hope to find out who our china painters are with this class. I appreciate it when someone suggests something for a new class. Joe Fryman suggested the china painting and I am always open to new suggestions. If we have several years with no entries in a class, then that class will be dropped and we will try something else.

I will try to get the end of the year reports out very soon. It was suggested that I send them out right after convention so that things can be put on them all year long and then nothing would be forgotten. It is a very good suggestion, however I have been trying to redo the report to make it easier for you to use and I haven't figured out how to get this done. I think my thinker has run out of gas. Anyway I'm trying and hope you will like the new form better.

My goal has always been to have a display in the Family Activities Room that will be a credit to the Grange. I want lots of things to display both in

the contests and in the Country Store and this is where you folks come in. We need you to bring lots of contest items, Country Store items and the things we are doing for Community Service to display so that we can show off some of our activities. This room is sometimes the only part of the Grange that our guests or others see so it must be something we would be proud of. I know you Grangers always come through and for this I am very grateful. I cannot do this job without your help.

**Don't forget our
Grange Radio Program on
KNEB 960 at 1:20 p.m. and
KRVN 880, KTIC 840 at 1:40
p.m. on Fridays to help keep
you better informed about
Grange**



**Program Director
Darlene Janing**

The Kansas State Grange hosted the "ReJuv" Cornstates Lecturers Conference April 16-18th, 2010 at The Legends at Village West, Kansas City, Kansas. On Friday evening Kansas State Lecturer Callie Ballenger opened the meeting with some Get Acquainted activities. Oklahoma State President, Yvonne Merritt led a discussion on the upcoming 2011 National Session

that will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We learned of the progress being made to accommodate the convention and the responsibilities that the state of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska are sharing. Coordinators from each state have been appointed and are involved in keeping each state informed.

Saturday morning workshops were given by Texas State Program Director Lori Wueston the importance of water and ways to use it wisely. Linda Rothwell, Kansas State Grange presented program ideas and suggestions on keep your members involved. One concept that is important is the "30 seconds" elevator speech. When you are asked about Grange a quick concise sentence is used to explain about what we stand for and how Grange serves the community. She also suggested having a contest on how to recycle plastic items. Nebraska State Grange Program Director presentation was titled "Life's Mystery Box" which dealt with establishing a foundation with a strong faith by using soil, stones, planter and plants as symbols of life's mysteries. The Agriculture Hall of Fame was toured in the afternoon. A relaxing evening meal was at the Backfire BBQ which had some unique decorations.

The Conference closed on Sunday with a review of ideas to take back to our State Granges. Nebraska offered to host this conference in 2011.

Thanks President Joe and Tammy Fryman for your support at the conference. Thanks also go to Richard for his attendance. These conferences would not work without your support.

Packets were pasted out at State Grange in September 2009. It is important the Subordinate Grange Program Directors open them and use the available information. Now is a good time to be taking pictures on those sunshiny days and not wait until the last minute. Your participation is what makes our State Convention work.

Community Service Shannon Cooksley

Dear Grangers-

Spring has sprung and time is fleeting. Graduations are over, crops are planted, calves are branded, cattle out to pasture and gardens growing. After the long, dreary winter and much desired season of sunshine and new birth, it is quickly approaching the fast pace of summer with all of its activities.

I hope that all Granges have been and still working on some Community Service projects enjoying the fulfillment and satisfaction that comes from humbly serving others. **Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.**

Colossians 3:23 NIV

Since I regretfully will not be taking the bus trip this year, I will be emailing the Community Service report forms to those who request them. The reports will be due no later than **AUGUST 20th**

Kevin and I will miss our special time in July with our dear Grange friends. God has put many challenges before us this past year and is working overtime seeing us through them. We would ask for your prayers as we pray for you.

Have a really good time on the trip and take a lot of pictures. Stay tuned for more information about our 30-60-90 party on September 5th. Mark your calendars!

Nebraska Grange HICKUps Edgar Hicks, Membership

The Nebraska State Grange recently supported a proposal (due May 10) to USDA-SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) for a three site "Listening Session" to be held in Pottawattamie County (IA), one in Lancaster County, and one in Douglas County. The official application was made by the Nebraska Great Plains RC&D based in David City in conjunction with the Golden Hills RC&D of Oakland, IA. The purpose of listening sessions is to identify current challenges facing the expansion and use of agricultural practices that sustain communities.

Nebraska State Grange President Joe Fryman accompanied by Governor Heineman, Congressmen Terry and Fortenberry, Eric Brown of NRRRA and twenty eight others sent letters of support for the listening session in Nebraska.

If Nebraska is successful in winning the listening session it will be held in mid-June. Our expectations are there will be an opportunity to spotlight the effort and folks who have been working to establish the GW Carver Grange in Omaha. The focus would be educating youth about the work of the Unicameral and growing involvement in FFA.

Along the same line, a meeting was help with Mayor Suttle's office to discuss using the Carver Savings and Loan as a community "husbandry center". The City of Omaha owns the building that was built in 1944 (a year after Dr. Carver died). There seems to be a lot of red tape to work thru.

As for our continued effort to establish our Grand Island Grange the plan was to have a meeting with GI's FFA advisor at Northwest High School. The meeting was to take

News Letter Articles are due by

August 15

Send to Judy Hansen
20657 State Highway 91
Blair, NE 68008

or
preferably by email
jhans@huntel.net

place at the April FFA convention in Lincoln. The connection at the meeting never came to fruition.

Plans are moving ahead for conversation and communications with direct contacts in Gl. Expectations are this approach will lead to a more effective effort than our previous efforts with a broad bush approach.

On May 8, Farmers Union president John Hansen and his wife were in Omaha speaking at the home of a Dundee community resident. It was interesting to see the different events he attends and hear him spotlight the communication channels he uses to spread the word about Nebraska Farmers Union.

**GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER**

The recipient of the 2010-2011 Nebraska State Grange Scholarship is Chelsea Rolofson. She is the daughter of Layne and Jeanette Rolofson and the granddaughter of Raymond Grange members, Erv and Marcy Rolofson. Chelsea is a recent graduate of Raymond Central High School where she was active in band, choir, cheerleading, FBLA, FCA, speech and drama. Her community activities included teaching Sunday School and participating in church musicals and dramas.



Chelsea included the following information on her scholarship application:

My family means the world to me. We are a very close-knit family that spends a lot of time together. Whether it's on a family vacation, or just sitting on the couch in the living room, there is sure to be, without a doubt, never a dull moment. Not only am I very close with my family, but my friends, as well. I enjoy spending time hanging out at their houses or going out somewhere with them. One of my friends has horses so we always find time to go out on a ride and enjoy talking to each other. I have always had a love for animals and some day I plan to have a farm where I can raise animals and a family. I plan to go to Doane College in Crete, Nebraska and major in Elementary Education. I have always enjoyed working with children and this will allow me to teach, grow, and guide children in their learning years, as well as being able to stay a "kid" inside.

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**Nebraska State Grange
2010 Summer Bus Trip**

There is still room on the bus for our Grange trip to southeast Minnesota, July 8,9,10, & 11, 2010. Some of the towns we will visit are Walnut and West Bend, Iowa and Winona, Red Wing, and St. Paul, Minnesota. If you or someone you know may be interested in going along, contact Joe Fryman at 402-426-5773 or email at jfryman@huntel.net for more details.



The U.S. flag is a symbol
Of what Americans treasure;
It represents the values
We cherish beyond measure.

Our flag flies high for freedom,
For legal equality,
For Constitutional rights,
And justice for you and me.

Our flag flies high for bravery,
The courage it takes to fight
And even give our lives
For what we know is right.

Our flag flies high for compassion;
We quickly help those in need;
When there's a need for service,
Americans take the lead.

The American flag is an icon,
Representing the American way;
Our hearts swell with emotion,
When we see it ripple and sway.

By Joanna Fuchs



MEMBERSHIP TIP
Rusty Hunt
Leadership/Membership
National Grange

Have you ever said "I'm too Busy"? I have. Did you mean it or was it just an excuse to not do something? I have used it both ways myself but it never seems to work for me. I still end up doing whatever anyway.

Has anybody ever said "I'm too busy" to you when you asked them for help or do something for the Grange? Have you ever asked someone to join and they have said "I'm too busy"? Do you have a good answer for them when you hear "I'm too busy"? We should. Aren't we too busy. I know a lot of good Grangers out there and they are all busy people. We are working on things from Home, Family, work and Grange. We Care about people, schools, kids, health and safety. We care so much that we make time for Grange meetings, Grange programs, and Grange activities. We raise money to give dictionaries. We raise money for the foster children, March of Dimes, Deaf Awareness and etc..... We see the importance in it all. When we see a need we don't just complain about it, we act and do something about it.

I have had many people tell me that they haven't asked people to help or join because those people are too busy. That is just an excuse not to ask. We should never assume someone else's answer. We should never give them that excuse automatically. If we believe so much in the Grange why should we assume that they won't see the value of the Grange and believe in it too. By giving them the excuse we are not allowing or offering the opportunity for other members or potential members to be a part. In some cases it is an excuse to make sure that we get to do it our way.

Because, if the other person was to say "yes" to us asking then we may have to do things differently, like their way.

By continually offering the opportunity to help with Grange programs, activities, and projects and by asking folks to join we are showing them that we value them. We are showing them that the Grange has value to us and our community and they need to be part of it. By asking we see them as an important person with things to offer to the Grange. And by being a part they will be able to get that good feeling of helping their community, State and Nation.

So next time you think someone is too busy to ask to help out or join the Grange, ask anyway. You might just get surprised by their answer. If they do say "I'm too busy" then you answer "I know, I am very busy too but that is the reason I ask you". The Grange needs busy people. We don't need anymore members that don't want to do anything. We need people with ambition. People that want to accomplish something. Members that see or have a need and want to help out. Just like us. Because we are all too Busy!

BY-CRACKY
SEE MACKAY
 for your
GRAIN, SEEDS
& FEED

14610 Chandler Rd
Chalco
Omaha, NE 68138
 Phone 895-4060

National Grange News

**Contact Your U.S. Senators and
 Ask Them to Support Senate Joint
 Resolution 26 That Would Remove
 U.S. EPA's Authority to Regulate
 Greenhouse Gases Under the
 Clean Air Act**

The U.S. Senate will vote as early as June 10th on Senate Joint Resolution 26, (S.J. Res. 26) which will block the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating greenhouse gases. This resolution has been referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**Background and Resolution
 Highlights**

U.S. EPA is planning to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from cars and stationary sources next year. The authority to specifically regulate greenhouse gasses as a source of air pollution, including carbon dioxide, is nowhere in the text of the Clean Air Act. However, under a U.S. Supreme Court decision known as *Massachusetts v EPA*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Clean Air Act grants discretionary, but not mandatory, authority to EPA to identify and regulate possible additional sources of air pollution that are not specifically addressed in the text of the Clean Air Act. EPA has proposed to use this discretionary regulatory authority to impose new regulations on man made sources of greenhouse gasses. At the same time, Congress and the Obama Administration are working on legislation that would provide new legal authority that specifically names greenhouse gasses as potential sources of air pollution and delineates the regulatory authority that Federal agencies, like EPA, could use to control these sources of pollution. However, some and

environmental groups still support strict EPA regulations as a backstop if Congress fails to pass a climate bill, while opponents of EPA regulation, like the National Grange, say the Clean Air Act was never designed for regulating sources of pollution that are not directly dangerous to human health, such as greenhouse gases.

Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) has introduced S. J. Res. 26 with the intent to undo EPA's discretionary authority to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, and effectively reverse the Supreme Court's decision in Massachusetts v EPA that radically shifted the presumptive legal authority to address new, national issues of environmental regulation from the elected, national legislature, with its Constitutional system of checks and balances, to unelected bureaucrats at EPA. The sponsor said she has unanimous consent agreement with Majority Leader Harry Reid to call for a floor vote after the weeklong Memorial Day recess. Since Congress will be in recess for the holiday, there will be an opportunity for all Grange members to contact their U.S. Senators in their home offices to express support for Sen. Murkowski's resolution.

S.J. Res. 26 is a disapproval resolution seeking to veto EPA's "endangerment finding," a formal determination that allows the agency to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. The resolution will effectively negate EPA's authority to enforce its climate rules for cars and industrial facilities. Under Senate rules, the resolution can be debated for 10 hours with no filibusters or amendments possible. The resolution needs 51 votes to pass the Senate and already has 41 co-sponsors including three democrats. Even if the resolution passes the Senate, it faces an uphill climb in the House, which does not have the same expedited procedures, and it faces a likely veto from President Obama. However, it is still important

for Grange members to weigh in and support S.J. Res. 26 because it is important that our elected officials understand the potential, real life economic impacts of allowing unelected bureaucrats at the EPA, rather than elected members of Congress, to unilaterally set our national priorities related to important environmental issues, like climate change

Grange Policy

At the 143rd National Grange convention, grassroots policy was passed by the delegate body to vigorously oppose any "Cap and Trade" bill or related legislation or regulation concerning climate change s that would restrict greenhouse gas emissions.

Action Needed

Please e-mail your U.S. Senators before June 10, 2010 and urge them to vote in favor of S.J. Res. 26. Please feel free to cut and paste the following sample letter.

Sample E-Mail

Dear Senator,
I am writing to ask your support of Senate Joint Resolution 26, which will block the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating greenhouse gases. U.S. EPA is planning to control greenhouse gas emissions from cars and stationary sources next year through the Clean Air Act. I believe the Clean Air Act is the wrong vehicle for regulating greenhouse gases and I oppose any attempt by EPA to use their regulatory authority as a backstop measure in case Congress fails to pass a climate bill.

Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) has introduced S. J. Res. 26 with the intent to undo EPA's authority to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. It will effectively veto EPA's "endangerment finding," which is the basis for its climate rules for cars and industrial facilities. Under Senate rules, the resolution can be debated for 10 hours with no filibusters or amendments possible. It is my understanding that this joint resolution may be voted on in the

Senate by June 10, 2010. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Your name

Your Grange number

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Action Alert, please contact Legislative Program Assistant Molly Thompson by e-mail:

mthompson@nationalgrange.org; or by phone: 1-888-4GRANGE, ext. 107. Thank you for your grassroots participation in the National Grange Legislative Program.

Deadline for Community Service Reports and Resolutions is August 15. Send Community Service Reports to Shannon Cooksley. Resolutions should be sent to State Secretary Judy Hansen